

*Grand Master's  
From  
Widow's Sons'  
No. 60*

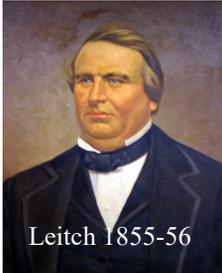
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF WIDOW'S SONS' LODGE NO. 60  
A. F. & A. M., CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA, U.S.A.  
CHARTERED DECEMBER 10TH, AD 1799, AL 5799

# HIRAM'S JOURNAL

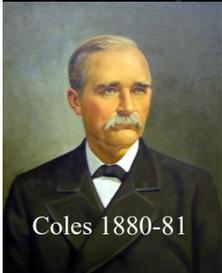
Stated Communications July 20th, 2020 (CANCELLED)

[Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Website](#)

[Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Facebook Page](#)



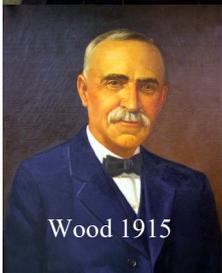
Leitch 1855-56



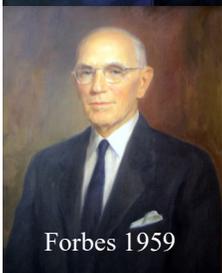
Coles 1880-81



Duke 1898-99



Wood 1915



Forbes 1959



Hodges 2009

## MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

Because of the continuing COVID-19 problem we are cancelling our July Stated. We are hoping to be able to have our Stated Communication in August. If we can do that we will follow guidelines including social distancing, no hand shaking, masks, hand sanitizer, etc. Also, we won't have a meal before Lodge. The August Hiram's Journal will let the brethren know about the status of the August Stated.

In July we might do another Zoom get together. A good crowd of brothers got together online on June 15. It was very enjoyable for me to see and chat with several brothers about how they are doing and how they are coping with the virus challenges. We will get the word out to you if we decide to do a Zoom in July. I want to thank our Junior Warden Adam Buffington for setting up the June Zoom.

The four scholarship winners have been congratulated and recognized by mail and their scholarship dollars have been sent to their respective colleges or are in the process of doing so. Likewise, our Eagle Scouts were recognized in a similar way. RW Jason Pattison is in charge of our Lodge scholarship program and Brother Kent Schlüssel handles the Eagle Scouts. I want to thank both of them for doing a fine job. With schools not in session it was much more difficult to get this done this year and I appreciate the efforts of both these brothers.

Brethren, continue to be safe. Continue to check on our brothers and our widows. I hope we are nearing the end of this COVID-19 disaster. If we can help you with anything please let me know and we will try to assist. Email or call me: [hlw@comcast.net](mailto:hlw@comcast.net) 434-960-6776.

Have a safe and fun July 4th!! Celebrate our great country and how fortunate we are to live in the United States of America!!

In closing, pray for MW Jeff Hodges to recover quickly and completely from his recent surgery.

Fraternally Yours,

Harry Walker, 2020 Worshipful Master





**Masonic Birthdays!**  
**Call a Brother and wish him a**  
**Happy Masonic Birthday.**

Name:	Master Mason Degree:
L. Mark Ascoli	7/27/1988
Peter J. Baber	7/10/2002
Pascal Bussiere	7/25/1998
Mark A. Chandeysson	7/17/2008
Larry W. Claytor	7/15/1986
Robert A. Clore	7/24/1971
Andrew F. Conely	7/29/2006
Vestal Greer	7/29/2006
Jeffrey A. Kennedy	7/01/2009
David C. Merchant	7/28/2004
Richard K. Powley	7/24/1967 (53 Yrs)
James L. Reinhold	7/28/1999
R. Lee Richards	7/19/1991
William Roberson, Jr.	7/24/1961 (59 Yrs)
Barty L. Sorrells	7/22/2006
James D. Stoneburner	7/13/2005
Peter R. Thorsen	7/21/1978
Paul Vereshchetin	7/29/2013
Ronald L. Webster	7/23/1984

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Events:**

**WSL Stated Communication: CANCELLED**

**WSL Officer Meeting: July 6th—6:00 pm**

**Officers meeting will be through Skype. Contact the Secretary if you need to get Skype set up.**

**2020 DUES:**

**Brethren, the Secretary would like to remind all the members that we still need to pay 2020 dues. During these hard times we still support charities and need to pay expenses for the continuing operations of Lodge and Grand Lodge.**

**DDGM Official Visit— Official Visit of the District Deputy Grand Master RW Jason Pattison to WSL60 will be hosted at our August Stated Communication**

**Lodge of Sorrow**

Brothers, a Lodge of Sorrow was called on June 12th to pay respect to Brother Harold Wayne Davis, who was called to the Celestial Lodge above on June 7th, 2020. Brother Davis was born on January 28th, 1944 in Charlottesville, VA. He was initiated an Entered Apprentice on May 21st, 1975; Passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on July 7th, 1975; and Raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on August 4th, 1975. He was a 45 year Masonic Veteran. Brother Davis served as a police officer for both Charlottesville and Albemarle County, volunteered with the Rescue Squad and later was a magistrate.

**Wear your Polo Shirt to Lodge**

**Brothers, the Worshipful Master has decreed that all Stated Communications for the months of July and August (if Lodge is reopened) will be causal dress.**



**Bring your lodge polo shirt and khakis!!!**

**WIDOW'S SONS' LODGE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT**

Sarah Byram was one of four WSL60 college scholarship recipients this year. She is shown holding the WSL60 Certificate of Achievement which was mailed to her....the lodge scholarship funds (\$3,000) will be sent to her college finance office to pay tuition. Sarah will be attending James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA, in the fall.

**Good Luck Sarah..... you're off to a good start.**





# PATRIOTISM

By Conrad Hahn, PGM



[www.AmericanCountry.com](http://www.AmericanCountry.com)

During the Bicentennial year, 1976, *patriotism* will be a much-used word on the lips of all good Americans. Believing that thoughtful Freemasons will welcome some definitions of patriotism for use in Bicentennial programs, The Masonic Service Association presents these selected definitions for their consideration.

Most of the statements are quoted or excerpted from Brother Stewart M. L. Pollard's book, *Proudly Serving the Cause of Patriotism*, which he published in 1973 when he was national secretary of the National Sojourners, Inc. His gracious permission and enthusiastic assistance have made this *Bulletin* possible.

On April 6, 1918, the Congress of the United States officially adopted a statement by William Tyler Page, "The American's Creed," as an expression of our national faith and purpose. It therefore represents an "official" definition of patriotism.

## THE AMERICAN'S CREED

I believe in the United States of America, as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign nation of many sovereign states; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon these principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortune.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.



The essence of patriotic devotion was expressed most simply by a martyr of the Revolution, Nathan Hale, who faced death with the famous words, "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country." The signers of the Declaration of Independence also understood that the essence of patriotism is the willingness to sacrifice for the common good, when they signed the equally famous statement written by Thomas Jefferson, "For the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor."

*Patriot* and *patriotism* are both derived from the Greek word for *father*. The commonest definitions of those words are "one who loves his country (fatherland) and zealously supports its authority and interests" and "love for or devotion to one's country (fatherland)."

While our Founding Fathers had no doubt what those definitions meant, we live in a confused and questioning society in which every idea, every belief, every mode of conduct, every institution is being challenged and decried. Even patriotism is being disparaged by cynical protestors and militant "activists." An awareness of this dangerous ignorance will be found in some of the following definitions, all of which are as modern as 1972.

Dr. and Brother Norman Vincent Peale, America's most widely-known Protestant preacher, said:

Patriotism is of course, as the word denotes, love of one's fatherland. A patriot is a person who is proud of his country and wishes to serve it sacrificially in any capacity that is for the best interest of the nation. Patriotism does not mean that the patriot sees his country as being entirely without fault. However, he is not one who will ever depreciate his country and follow the cynical intellectual fad of emphasizing its weaknesses and deficiencies. He is a positive thinker about his country, seeing its good points and stressing them while at the same time realistically endeavoring to help correct its weaknesses. Patriotism is one of the noblest emotions known to man and produces those loyal men and women who, giving of themselves, make their country great. A great country is made by great, patriotic people.

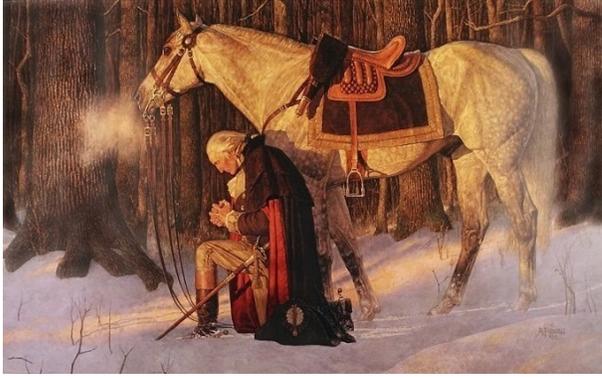
The specific qualifications of a patriot are defined by General and Bro. Bruce C. Clarke, USA Ret., as follows:

Patriotism is devotion to one's Country. These few simple words are easy to memorize but many do not fully understand all they entail. He acquires an understanding knowledge of his Country's history. He understands his Country's Constitution and the philosophy behind it. He approaches the solution to his Country's problems on a long-term basis. He supports the official policies and laws of his Country. When he considers that there should be changes, he helps bring them about through established methods and procedures. He supports education, social justice, charities, benevolences, religion, and youth and community activities. He considers the payment of just and necessary taxes to be an investment in his Country and its future. He takes an interest in good and efficient government on all levels. He scrutinizes candidates for all offices, and the issues involved, and votes for the best for his country. He projects an industrious, ethical and a moral image in handling of all situations. He radiates an enthusiastic and positive approach toward his Country.

Brother and Congressman Robert "Bob" Sikes, representing Florida's First District, declared that

**PATRIOTISM IS FOR EVERYONE.** It is a word which is frequently heard but not necessarily understood. Perhaps it has been around so long that people don't try to understand its meaning. They take it for granted. Let's try to understand it by saying that patriotism is a natural reaction generated by a deep-seated love for one's country, flag, traditions, and people. Dedicated Americans feel something when they see their flag waving proudly. They feel something when they hear the "Star Spangled Banner." They feel something when their nation pioneers travel in space, acts in a humanitarian way toward less fortunate peoples, or stands tall in the cause of peace and freedom. When men and women react to a situation calling for bravery or self-sacrifice, this too is called patriotism. It is a rising to the surface of a deep-rooted feeling for one's country which produces reactions that thrill the individual and inspire those around him. Patriotism cannot be seen or heard. It cannot be drawn or pictured. Perhaps patriotism is most keenly felt by the sensitive, the compassionate, and the strong, but it is not denied to any living human being. Patriotism is in the heart and mind. It is not just for Americans; it is for the people of all nations. But it should be felt very strongly in a nation like ours which has done more for its people than any other.

# PATRIOTISM ~Continued



Margaret Chase Smith, former United States Senator from Maine, made some valid distinctions:

True patriotism is not static. True patriotism is dynamic because of its concept and application are not always the same with every person under every condition and at every time. The flexibility of patriotism must not be destroyed by the rigidity of slogans such as “Love America or leave it” or the social destructiveness of “Burn, baby, burn.” True patriotism is an attitude or state of mind that must be carefully viewed before determining its credibility. For example, beware of the super-patriots. Are they really putting their country ahead of themselves? In their flamboyance are they helping their country or are they hurting it? This is what I had in mind when I said 22 years ago in my “declaration of conscience,” in opposition to Senator Joseph McCarthy, that “those of us who shout the loudest about Americanism in making character assassinations are of-

ten those who ignore some of the basic principles of Americanism: The right to criticize; The right to hold unpopular beliefs; The right to protest; The right to independent thought.” The acid test of patriotism is how much a person will sacrifice for his country—his life, his reputation, or merely his convenience. A patriot is not only one who loves his country but one who will defend liberty.

Another Mason, General of the Army Omar N. Bradley, defined patriotism succinctly:

A nation’s strength is not to be found in its treasury statements. It lies instead in the national character of its people in their willingness to sacrifice leisure, comfort and a share of their talents for the welfare of the nation of which they are a part. Patriotism is putting not less, but more personal responsibility into the affairs of your community and your nation.

Brother and retired Admiral Arleigh Burke was even briefer: “Patriotism is the knowledgeable pride in one’s country and the willingness to come to its defense wherever the threat lies.”

Illustrious Brother Henry C. Clausen, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander, Supreme Council, A&ASR, Southern Jurisdiction, USA, emphasized personal dedication to freedom:

Our founders determined that in this land there should be freedom of mind, freedom of body, and freedom of spirit in man. Yet it would be something that everybody almost could reach out and touch and feel. They thereby opened wide in this Western World the windows through which the sunlight of liberty could pour as a living, solid workable reality—not a dream. Our dedication to this ideal of freedom and free enterprise is patriotism.

In the Northern Jurisdiction, Illustrious Brother George A. Newbury, 33°, Past Sovereign Grand Commander, called attention to the universality of patriotism:

Patriotism is no fair weather quality of a citizen. It is one of the noblest attributes of a man and of a people. No nation can be great without it. No man deserves the proud title of “citizen” unless he wholeheartedly accepts its responsibilities.

American Freemasons are naturally interested in the famous patriots of their own country, who defined patriotism by their own lives, services, and sacrifices. Patriotism, however, is not limited to one time, place, or nation. Every country has heroic patriots of which it is justifiably proud. The thoughtful Freemason remembers that patriotism is universal. Dean Roscoe Pound reminded his brethren: “What all thinkers of the Craft have insisted on is universality.”

For American Freemasons celebrating the Bicentennial, however, we conclude this collection of definitions of patriotism with a positive and comprehensive statement by the late Most Worshipful Honorary Past Grand Master of Maine, Brother Ralph J. Pollard:

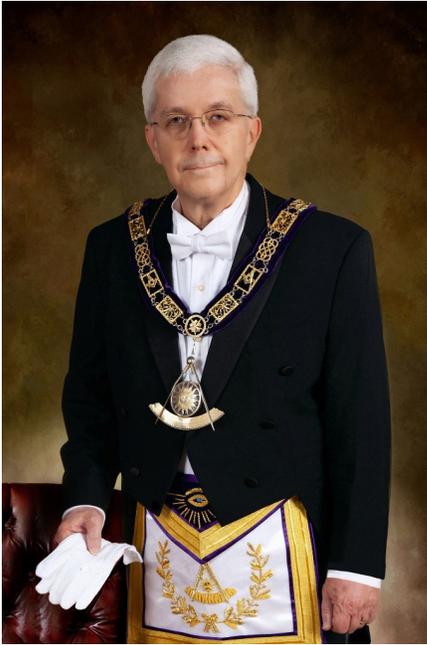
Patriotism means far more than a mere emotional fondness for the country of one’s birth or adoption. To mean anything, professions or patriotism must be translated into action. To me, a patriotic American is one who is absolutely loyal to the United States of America, to its Constitution and to its flag; who bears true faith and allegiance thereto; who supports its lawful government; who regards voting in its elections as both a privilege and a duty; who consistently obeys its laws; who assists in the maintenance of law and order; who feels and expresses an honest pride in its history and achievements; who cherishes its ideals and traditions; who has an abiding faith in its institutions, in its political philosophy, in its economic system and in its future; who prays that it may continue to merit and to enjoy the Divine blessing; who neither condones nor tolerates any form of disloyalty or sedition; who holds in contempt those of its own citizens who give aid and comfort to its enemies in time of war, who regards service in its Armed Forces as an honor and a privilege; and who stands ready, at all times, to FIGHT and, if need be, to DIE in the defense of his Country against ALL its enemies, both foreign and domestic.



Reprinted from “The Short Talk Bulletin”, Volume 54, Number 3, March 1976, presented in “The Short Talk Bulletins Volume Bound Set IV”, Volumes 46-60, 1968-1982, pages 381-384.

# REOPENING OF LODGES: VIRGINIA FORWARD

*Common sense should rule the day*



Brothers, here is the latest guidance from the Grand Lodge of Virginia and the Grand Master in the reopening of Virginia Masonic Lodges and the path moving forward into 2021.

In compliance with the Phase II plan, social distancing with a minimum of 6 feet must be observed at all times and **no more than 50 Master Masons, to include Lodge Officers, members and guests**, may gather in the Lodge building at any given time or participate in a tiled communication. Worshipful Masters have the discretion to suspend any Lodge activities until September 1st, in considering the health of the members of the Lodge.

For your protection and the protection of those around you, masks are **strongly encouraged** for every member. Hand sanitizer must be readily available throughout the Lodge building.

Seating in the Lodge room must be marked and restricted so as to promote social distancing of at least 6 feet, including in front of and behind seats for lodges with more than one aisle of seating. In some Lodge rooms, the use of folding chairs may be necessary to offset seating restrictions.

Until advised otherwise, meals, snacks and beverages before or after Lodge communications will not be permitted.

**TAKING UP THE WORD:** Due to restrictions on touching and social distancing, the Deacons will not be taking up the word from the brethren during the opening of lodge.

**CLOSING CHARGE:** The Brethren should remain in their seats during the closing charge at the end of lodge. Only the Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens should move to the altar as normal.

After discussions with the Grand Lodge officers, Past Grand Masters, and District Deputy Grand Masters, it has been determined and approved that all elected and appointed Grand Line Officers and DDGMs will remain in place through the 2021 Masonic year.

Lodges will have the option of not advancing their progressive line as well; however, should the Lodge choose to do so, they may proceed with the election and installation of officers.

An abbreviated and significantly scaled back Grand Annual Communication will take place on Saturday, November 7th, 2020 for a half-day. Attendance will be limited to elected and appointed Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, District Deputy Grand Masters and one representative from each subordinate Lodge holden under the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

More information can be found on the Grand Lodge website: <https://grandlodgeofvirginia.org>

# THE FIVE NOBLE ORDERS OF ARCHITECTURE

BY: PERCE J. GEORGE MANNUM LODGE #97, GRAND LODGE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Our rituals, as a general rule are reasonably straight forward and self explanatory, but on occasion some matters are only touched upon briefly and in consequence, can leave one puzzled about their full meanings. One such matter is the phrase, "FIVE HOLD A LODGE IN ALLUSION TO THE FIVE NOBLE ORDERS OF ARCHITECTURE, NAMELY THE TUSCAN, DORIC, IONIC, CORINTHIAN AND COMPOSITE."

But what are the peculiarities of these different orders? First, let us look at the term, "Noble." A diligent search through many encyclopedias, dictionaries, books of knowledge and books specifically relating to architecture, has failed to reveal the term and this suggests that it is only used in Masonic literature, but is not conclusive.

However, Mitchell Beazley's Pocket Guide to Architecture refers to these five orders as "Classical Orders", so it can be assumed that both of these terms are synonymous. Even though it is the peculiarities of the separate orders which will be the main subject matter of this article, it is first prudent that we make a study of their similarities. Some columns, but not all, are supported by a Pedestal, usually of square section. This can take the form of a square, shallow, plain block, but where a higher pedestal is used, say up to a third of the height of the complete unit, it consists of a Base, a Dado, which can be plain or ornamented and a Cornice. The column proper is also divided into two or three named parts.

First the Base, which is a series of annulets or ring-like mouldings, the Shaft and the Capital, which by its design, is the manner by which each order is recognised. It is interesting to note that the Greeks were the first to establish the orders and the Romans followed suit, making some alterations, modifications and additions.



We will begin by examining the details of the Doric Order, because it was the First to be established by the Greeks. It was the one which they employed predominantly in their buildings. The general consensus is that the column was developed from earlier wooden forms. This, from the resemblance of cornice details to the forms used in early carpentry. By the seventh century B.C., the type had arrived at a definite form and subsequent improvements led to the production of the perfected order of the fifth century B.C.

Examples are to be found in the Parthenon and the Propylaea at Athens, and was in continual use by the Greeks until the second century B.C. An outstanding feature of the Greek Doric column is that it has no base and a more substantial shaft than the other orders. It is generally treated with twenty flutes and it terminates in a simple capital of a group of annulets, a convex curved moulding which is referred to as the Echinus and a square slab called the Abacus on top. The Roman Doric was derived from the Greek, but the design was probably influenced by the appealing aspect of a more slender shaft developed by the Etruscans. This column was not frequently used, but examples may be viewed in the Colosseum and the Theatre of Marcellus. The Roman Doric also differs from the Greek in that it incorporates a base and has some changes to the profile of the capital.

Although departing from the principle of explaining the orders chronologically, it is fitting to introduce at this point, the Tuscan Order. Established by the Sixteenth century Italians, it is of comparative recent origin. A much simplified example of the Doric, it is unfluted and has no adornments on the capital. It is also known as the Roman Doric order referred to earlier.



The next Noble order to emerge was the Ionic which attained full development by the sixth century B.C. Primarily a creation of the artisans of Asia Minor, which is the Asian portion of Turkey, where some partially developed examples of the order have been located, it appeared in Greece in the fifth century B.C. The one complete example of Greek Ionic can be seen in the Erectheum. This is a temple built from Pentelic marble on the Acropolis in Athens. Greek Ionic columns are slenderly proportioned, their height generally being about nine times their lower diameter and usually having twenty four flutes. The capital is characterised by spiral scrolls known as Volutes.



## THE FIVE NOBLE ORDERS OF ARCHITECTURE—CONTINUED

These scrolls are viewed at front and rear of the capital. The Roman Ionic differs from the Greek in the manner that the volutes protrude from the capital forming four corners. In both the Greek and the Roman, echinus mouldings are used in conjunction with the scrolls and are generally highly ornamented.



The Corinthian is the most elaborate and highly decorated of all the orders, attaining its period of full development around the middle of the fourth century B.C. Strangely enough, the Greeks made very little use of it by comparison with the other orders. However, an excellent example is the circular Choragic Monument of Lysicrates at Athens which was erected in the year 335 B.C., but the most notable of the Corinthian temples is that of Zeus, also at Athens, the construction of which was begun in the second century B.C. and was completed by the Emperor Hadrian in the second century A.D. The Greek Corinthian column, except for its distinctive capital, is similar to the Ionic, but is even more slender. Legend has it that the design of the beautiful capital, devised of Acanthus leaves, can be attributed to Callimachus, who was a Hellenistic Greek poet and critic.

This is remarkable because his actual stock in trade was schoolteacher and library worker at Alexandria. The Romans made use of the Corinthian Order in many works of imperial architecture. They gave it a special base, made carved additions to the cornice and made various innovations in the capital with more flamboyant leafage than the Greek, and in some cases using human and animal figures. The Pantheon in Rome, built by Agrippa in the year 27 B.C., rebuilt by the Emperor Hadrian in the second century A.D. and now a Christian church, embodies the prevailing examples of this order.

Hailing back momentarily to the manner in which the volutes or scrolls of the Ionic order protrude from four corners, this configuration lent itself to the addition of the acanthus leaves of the Corinthian order and it was thus that the Romans devised the Composite Order as early as the first century A.D. However, it was not until the sixteenth century that the codifiers actually named it Composite. It has since been employed extensively in public buildings worldwide.



We, as Freemasons, are accustomed to seeing the Ionic, Doric and Corinthian columns in a free standing situation representing Wisdom, Strength and Beauty alongside the pedestals of the principal officers, but it must be realized that columns in their normal situations as parts of buildings, as well as being aesthetically pleasing, perform the function of supporting the upper portions of the structure. These upper parts are called Entablatures and can take several forms. In a building such as the Temple of Apollo at Didyma, the long rectangular entablature is around all four sides, whereas in the Pantheon, a triangular portion is added at the front of the porchway or entrance. This triangular entablature is used where a raked roof is employed and is consistent with the roof line. Entablatures, like Columns, are divided into named parts, such as the Architrave, which is directly above the columns. The portion above the architrave is called the Frieze, usually ornately ornamented. Above the frieze is the Cornice. In the case of a triangular portion being used, it also has named parts. The Cornices completely surround the triangular facade, which is called the Pediment, the upper, angled cornices being referred to as Raking Cornices.

Apart from the Noble or Classical Orders, many adaptations and departures from orthodoxy can be observed when travelling around cities or the countryside. For instance, at the entrance to the Town Hall in Angaston, (a town north of Adelaide) there are two pillars which look like extended Australian Rules footballs topped with the volutes of the Ionic order. Also, many false columns which are really parts of the walls, display the characteristics of the capitals of all the orders.

It is also interesting to note columns or pillars derived from the architecture of countries other than Greece and Italy, such as Egypt. The sculptors of this country depicted many conventional designs inspired by such plants as palms, lotus and papyrus, mainly in the Ptolemaic period. The Egyptians and also the Greeks made use of Caryatids which are columns sculpted in the form of women. A wonderful example is to be viewed in the ruins of the Erechthion on the Acropolis in Athens, where the Caryatid columns are completely preserved. It is interesting to note that these figures are completely clothed, but the arms are terminated above the elbows.

Reprinted from "The Short Talk Bulletin", Volume 74, Number 4, April 1996, presented in "The Short Talk Bulletins Volume Bound Set V", Volumes 61-80, 1983-2002, pages 532-534.

### Elected Officers for 2020

Worshipful Master: Wor. Harry Lee Walker, Jr.  
Senior Warden: Bro. Eddie O'Hare Creasy  
Junior Warden: Bro. Adam Lee Buffington  
Treasurer: RW Mike Daniel Griffin  
Secretary: Wor. Mark Stephen Chapman

Senior Deacon: RW Gerald William "Bud" Hogan  
Junior Deacon: RW Jason Andrew Pattison  
Chaplain: RW Philip Harding Nelson, Jr.  
Marshall: Bro. Anthony Curtis Schienschang  
Tyler: Bro. Bobby Cameron, Jr.

Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60  
A.F.&A.M.  
P. O. Box 6262  
Charlottesville, VA 22906

1799—2020  
The 221st Year of Service to the  
Charlottesville Community and beyond.  
"Freemasonry, a way of life"

Return Service Requested



**DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE PROCESS**

[Hiram's Journal](#)

## MASONIC BOOK REVIEW

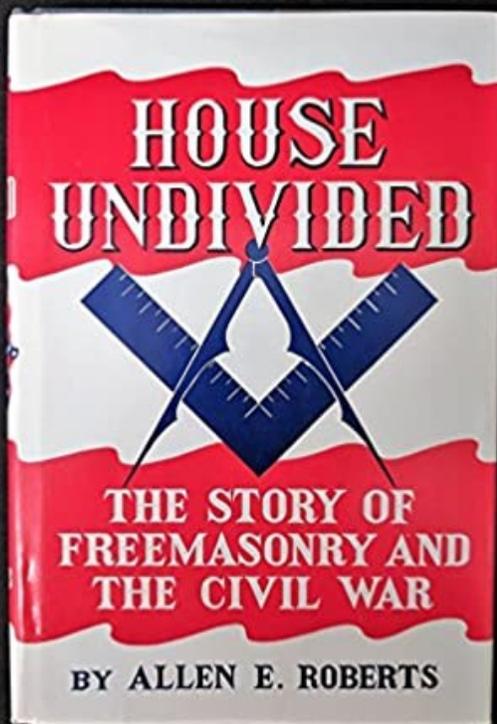
### HOUSE UNDIVIDED: The Story of Freemasonry and the Civil War

What an amazing book. The House Undivided – The Story of Freemasonry and The Civil War by Allen E. Roberts showcases the history of Freemasonry throughout the Civil War. Even as unbelievable and as unspeakable the horrors of war are, you feel proud reading about how Freemasons fighting the Civil War conducted themselves.

Two examples are showcased. In one, a Northern ship needed to dock in a southern port for a Brother who had passed away. The Southerners granted them an escort to the Masonic Lodge for a service and burial and allowed safe transport back to the ship--because they were Masons.

Another story took place as a town was being sacked and looted. A woman ran outside her home and screamed the hailing sign, and an officer on horseback put four of his men on the four corners of her house and guarded it against being looted.

The honor that we hold as brothers continues today, but to really understand how the standards were applied in the past, check out this book.



Review reprinted from The Midnight Freemasons Webpage and written by Midnight Freemasons Contributor S.K. Robert Johnson